



LFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Neubrand

Serial No.: 10/827,562

Group No.: 3612

Filed: April 19, 2004

Examiner:

For: RETRACTABLE HARDTOP WITH ARTICULATING CENTER PANEL

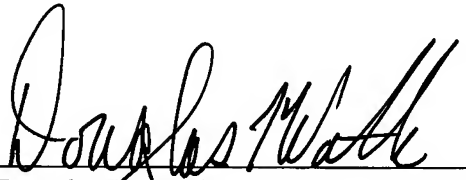
**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING  
OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

Date: September 28, 2004

Tel. No.: 734/913-9300

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas L. Wathen (Reg. No. 41,369)


Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle, Anderson  
& Citkowski, P.C.  
280 N. Old Woodward Ave., Ste 400  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
FAX 734/913-6007

---

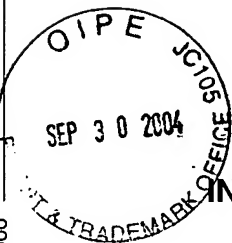
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: September 28, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann K. Andrusiak

GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C. 280 N. OLD WOODWARD AVENUE, STE. 400, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009-5394 (248) 647-6000



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Neubrand

Serial No.: 10/827,562

Group No.: 3612

Filed: April 19, 2004

Examiner:

For: RETRACTABLE HARDTOP WITH ARTICULATING CENTER PANEL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

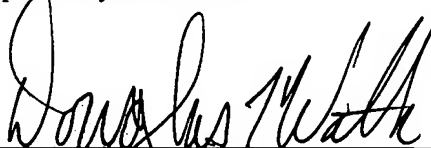
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the references listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possible material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h) this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Douglas L. Wathen  
Reg. No. 41,369

Date: September 28, 2004

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>	
				APPLICANT(S) <b>Neubrand</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>April 19, 2004</b>		GROUP ART UNIT <b>3612</b>	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2,303,788	12/1/1942	Carr			
		2,303,789	12/1/1942	Carr			
		2,234,040	3/4/1941	Carr			
		2,704,225	3/15/1955	Anschuetz et al.			
		3,536,354	10/27/1970	Ingram			
<b>U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS</b>							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2002/0005086 A1	6/28/2001	Neubrand	296	76	
		2002/0050727 A1	5/2/2002	Hasselgruber et al.	296	107.17	
		2002/0135200 A1	9/26/2002	DeGaillard	296	107.01	
		2002/0158485 A1	10/31/2002	Obendiek	296	107.07	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
		DE 43 16 485 A1	11/24/1994	Germany	296	108	
		DE 101 16 709 C2	3/27/2003	Germany			
		EP 0 835 779 B1	4/15/1998	Europe			
		EP 0 835 780 B1	4/15/1998	Europe			
		EP 1 247 676 A1	9/10/2002	Europe			
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>	APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>
	Neubrand	
	FILING <b>April 19, 2004</b>	GROUP ART <b>3612</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,619,480	10/28/1986	Motoyama et al.	296	217	
	4,741,571	5/3/1988	Godette	296	107	
	4,805,956	2/21/1989	Saunders	296	107	
	4,840,419	6/20/1989	Kolb	296	108	
	4,948,194	8/14/1990	Dogliani	296	108	

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2002/0175536 A1	11/28/2002	Biecker et al.	296	107.01	
	2003/0038502 A1	2/27/2003	Marold et al.	296	107.01	
	2003/0098594 A1	5/29/2003	Hahn	296	107.01	
	2003/0127883 A1	7/10/2003	Antreich	296	107.01	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
					YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
-----------------	------------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>	
				Neubrand			
				FILING <b>April 19, 2004</b>		GROUP ART <b>3612</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,042,868	8/27/1991	Nothaft et al.	296	107	
		5,067,768	11/26/1991	Fischbach	296	107	
		5,098,148	3/24/1992	Hoban	296	66	
		5,195,798	3/23/1993	Klein et al.	296	146 L	
		5,295,722	3/22/1994	Bonne et al.	296	121	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2004/0012224 A1	1/22/2004	Halbweiss et al.	296	108	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
-----------------	------------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>	
				Neubrand			
				FILING <b>April 19, 2004</b>		GROUP ART <b>3612</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,558,389	9/24/1996	Rothe et al.	296	107	
		5,746,470	5/5/1988	Seel et al.	296	108	
		5,769,483	6/23/1998	Danzl et al.	296	107	
		5,785,375	6/28/1998	Alexander et al.	296	108	
		5,979,970	11/9/1999	Rothe et al.	296	107.17	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>
-----------------	------------------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>	APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>
	Neubrand	
	FILING <b>April 19, 2004</b>	GROUP ART <b>3612</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,217,104	4/17/2001	Neubrand	296	108	
		6,302,470	10/16/2001	Maass et al.	296	107.07	
		6,315,349	11/13/2001	Kinnanen	296	108	
		6,364,395	4/2/2002	Halbweiss et al.	296	107.09	
		6,497,446	12/24/2002	Obendiek	296	107.17	

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>KMN-11002/16</b>	APPLICATION NO. <b>10/827,562</b>
	APPLICANT(S) <b>Neubrand</b>	
	FILING DATE <b>April 19, 2004</b>	GROUP ART UNIT <b>3612</b>

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,604,775	8/12/2003	Obendiek	296	108	
		6,644,715	11/11/2003	Bohnke	296	107.08	
		6,666,495	12/23/2003	Nania	296	107.08	
		6,682,124	1/27/2004	Bohnke	296	107.08	
		6,682,125	1/27/2004	Guillez et al.	296	107.18	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.